

II

Private Journal

E. W. Nelson

June — ~~October~~ 1892

Mexico.

E. W. Nelson
U.S. Dept. Agriculture
Washington D.C.

Dudes in Guadalajara area
called pollos = chickens

Cypress in Barranca de Ibarra
is Cupressus mucronatum

Un Despite their opposition to
the Protestant missions, some of the
priests have been seen to raise
their hats as they passed the entrance
of the mission, with the same respect
that they show invariably when passing the
doors of the front of their own church.
All men & boys of the Catholic faith
who wish to appear good churchmen
raise their hat as they pass the main
portals of the churches or chapels;
and also when the great bell of the
cathedral sounds vespers every hat
is raised and a hush seems to
fall on the street as the draper notes
sound solemnly over the twilight
shadows.

The common people also raise
their hats when the large bells ring
at noon & 3 o'clock.

June 1892
Guadalejara, Mex.

In connection with Mr. Howland's
mission is a mission school,
and quite a number of young
ladies are being taught there.

All manner of absurd reports
are spread among the people about
the missionaries. Mrs. Howland
told of a characteristic instance
when a father brought his daughter
to their house to see about her
entering the school & the girl
appeared terror stricken all the
time as though fearful of some great
calamity.

Another instance was given of a son
who had become a convert & who
urged his mother to attend one of
the meetings. She persistently refused,
promising to go, & one night when a service
was being held the son searched for
her & found her hidden under her bed.
He then reported her feet together
& taking her up in his arms,
carried her into the meeting where
he kept her till it closed. After this
she came to the meetings voluntarily &
finally became a convert.

Missionaries

Religious
~~Ejercicios~~
Ejercicios
in Lent

Under the present government in Mexico missionaries need have little fear except in very isolated places as the authorities will be very prompt in affording protection & stopping disturbances, - while, at the same time, they do not care to interfere unless obliged to do so, as they do not desire to give any deeper offence to the Clericals than is necessary.

During Lent each year the Catholics of Guadalajara have what they term "Exercises" (*Ejercicios*). The men go to the old Church of San Sebastian and the women mainly to the Church of the "Santraño". The custom of the devout is to go to one of these churches - pay a certain sum for the rent of a cell for a period of 8 days, and then to retire there for that time from all intercourse with the world. It is during this time that the "disciplinas" or scourges are used upon the bare back. Formerly the scourges were made of a handle and several strands

scourges and
disciplines of various
kinds.

women flagellants

of barbed links. At present
scourges of small hard ropes of
magnifying fibre are used.

And I was credibly informed that by listening
as the Churches of the Ejercicios are
passed in Lent the scowls of these scourges
can be plainly heard through the open windows.
Pieces of leather in the form of bands
are ~~also used~~ covered with a chain
of iron wire netting with a barb projecting
inwardly from each link or corner
of the mesh. These are worn on the
arms, wrists, ~~legs~~, or as waist belts,
& drawn tight so that the slightest motion
causes the barbs to irritate the flesh
of the wearer. Others are worn
around the feet inside the shoes
& I have seen one in the shape of a
cross to be worn on the breast.

I was told of cases of women taking
up these penitential exercises so vigorously
that the resulting mental & physical
exhaustion caused their death, and it
frequently results in illness.

Servants are required to attend some
of these exercises in many cases, &
it is at this time that every influence is
brought to bear upon those who are

thought to be in danger of forsaking
their church for the protestant.

Peddlers

The streets of Guadalajara are full of
sidewalk peddlers of every conceivable
thing, matches, candies, cakes, fruits,
ice cream, (strawberries,) pulque,
second-hand pistols, birds, and dozens
of other things.

Among the most curious of all is roasted
pig skin. When a pig is killed, it the
hair is removed in the ordinary way
and then it is skinned like other
animals & the skin is washed & then
baked or rather roasted until it
is a large rough sheet of succulent
crispiness. A string is tied about
this & boy or man walks about
the street shouting some unintelligible
cry & the common people buy of him
& he cuts off fragments according
to the demand of the customers until

Market.

The market belongs to the city and
hucksters are charged by the foot front of their
stalls per —.

the skin is used up. Every evening
these peddlers come out with a new stock.

The main market is a fine, well
ventilated stone structure occu-
pying an entire square, with
the roof supported by arches raised
in ~~immense~~ ^{by a series of} a large number
of pillars. The stalls radiate from
a small central-railed circle
where the flower dealers gather
and early in the morning the display
of tropical fruits is gorgeous
and bewildering.

Almost every one goes to market &
licensed boys with baskets are at
hand to carry home the purchases
for 3 cents.

Like the street porters who are
found everywhere, these boys
wear a large brass plate with
their number & these numbers
are issued on payment of license tax,
by the J. P. Politics.

Occasionally a lady, usually some
foreigner, takes a boy without a badge
& frequently the boy & basket of supplies
vanish together at some crowded
place on the way home — as I knew of

Plaza

derby

Dandies

Dandies

one instance in particular & heard
of others.

3 or 4 times weekly a military
band plays on the Plaza de Armas,
the main plaza of the City, and
electric lights or brilliant moon-
light on favorable nights, with illumina-
a display of the youth of the town.
The young men from 15 to 22 or 23
are given to derbies, hats & moustaches
canes with a crook at end of handle.
Instead of emulating the effort to swallow
the heads of their canes, as is the case with
some of our fops, they hook the cane over
the right shoulder & grasping the stick
by the middle draw down on it as if
for support with the right hand.
This is supposed to be a particularly
graceful maneuver.
Seeing the relative size of youths
& canes, one cannot blame them
very often for wishing to shoulder
them. The utmost decorum is
preserved and the gentlemen &
ladies keep strictly separated -
ladies going around outside of inner
circle from right to left, & gentlemen
from left to right. Outside of this on

Americans in
Guad^l

The Alameda

The outer walk, a mixed crowd of men & women
of the lower classes walk about.

On the ~~streets~~ during the day, the
ladies & common women alike wear
rebozos over their heads, but in the
evening the ladies are usually distinguished
by wearing hats with the rebozos thrown
over their shoulders.

At about 8.00-9.00 am. the plaza is
deserted by a large part of the
promenaders who go home to a light
supper & then return or are replaced
by others. The foreign colonies are seen in all
their glory on these exhibition nights, but in
Guad. at least they are quiet & not noticeable
except for an indistinguishable difference in
general appearance.

With the exception of the railroad
men & families, there are but few Americans
in Guadalupe.

Along the creek of San Juan de Dios
flowing in a northerly course through
Guad^l is a broad drive shaded by
trees where the people drive or ride
on Sunday afternoons with great
pomp. The riders with great gilt or
silver trimmed hats, short jackets &

Riding & Riders
on Alameda

trousers shined with silver buttons in double rows often connected by little chains down outside seams, huge spurs & saddle a mass of handsome ~~ornament~~ ornamental silver embroidery of ornamental bridle rides proudly up & down with all the pride of a child newly decked out in spangled clothes. In order to attract still more notice their horses are kept prancing & quincing about & show to advantage the excellent horsemanship of the riders.

The common custom is to have a curved sword hung to right left side of saddle. Bow with scabbard passing back under left leg. & very often ^{the scabbard} a pair of ivory or pearl-handled revolvers show above their scabbards one on each side of the saddle skirt.

It is a matter of personal security to carry these weapons in this country & a fashion of the dandies to wear them when riding in the city.

Ladies do not ride but drive in carriages.

Courtship

The matter of Courtship is carried on in the old style in Guadalupe.

The young man sees a young lady he desires to marry & writes her a letter avowing his regard. Then he proceeds to take his stand every evening in the street opposite her house either just in front or usually on the farther side in shadow of a door way.

It is customary for ~~for~~ ladies to sit in balconies a story above the street on pleasant evenings and the suitor remains silent & shadow-like for 2 or 3 hours until the ladies retire & then he leaves his post.

This is kept up by the month until at last when the proper amount of endurance is shown some ~~note~~ relation of the latter interviews the parents of the girl & the marriage is arranged. The young man must furnish the brides treasure but her people make the wedding feast.

If the suitor is not considered suitable it is made evident to him soon after he writes his letter & usually abandons his pursuit.

~~At~~ ~~times~~ Next door to where I stopped in Guadalupe a young man was seen night after night in the shadow of a doorway usually from about 7.30 or 8.00 on to 10 or 10.30 looking up to a balcony 2 stories above the street

Lower
Pains

When a girl was accustomed to sit with her mother.

At ~~times~~ times the girl gets a chance to talk with her lover through the iron bars which cover all of the lower windows of the houses & at times when they are concealed by the chodons the sound of a stolen kiss may be heard is one is so unfeeling as to permit himself to hear it. I was told of one case in which a young man of fine family was riding down the street in which his innamorata lived & saw a young man talking with this girl. He at once drew his pistol & fired, killing the rival on the spot. He then rode rapidly away while his brother with drawn revolver prevented pursuit. The murderer escaped & after a long absence he returned, guiltless & tried to see the young lady but she refused to have anything to do with him & he closed the tragedy by blowing shooting himself.

(The story of the daughters of the early governor & ancient palace comes in here.)

The duenna is a necessity in society & the rules of etiquette surrounding the intercourse between young people of the houses is so restricted that it is impossible for a young man to persons to know anything of each other before marriage.

Marriage among
lower classes

The fact that divorce is unknown
by virtue of the prevailing religious belief
prevents any very available knowledge
being secured as to whether marriage
is a failure or not under this lottery
system of getting partners for life.
The marriage announcements usually
state that the ~~bride~~ bride is "sympathetic"

In the state of Jalisco I was credibly
informed that ^{together} over half the common people
were living in an unmarried state owing
to the priesthood charging about \$16. for the marriage
ceremony - an almost impossible sum to
most of them - & at the same time preaching that
it was better to live together without marriage
than to be married only by the civil service provided
by law at a nominal expense.

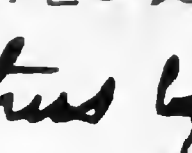
As a consequence the poor class is all paired
at an early age without the formality of a service.
These unions are usually permanent (when
there are children especially) but as a natural
consequence of such a state of affairs
a considerable amount of exchanging
partners is going on.

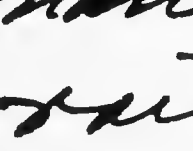

This condition of affairs goes on in
Jalisco as well. The civil marriage
is performed free of charge at the
office of the Judge. ~~##~~

Religious Vows

When arms are held up this way, until a certain number of prayers are said.

Earthquakes

One afternoon in Guad^l I wandered into the cathedral and saw a man kneeling before one of the images with his left arm held up thus  on inquiry found it was to fulfill a vow thus like a fakir of India.

Afterwards on a frost day in Hyattan I saw the church filled with kneeling people extending out on the steps in front many of the men with one or both hands raised  or  giving the scene an air of almost oriental fanaticism.

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The first week of June I felt 3 distinct earthquake tremors all of them at night & barely perceptible but they were noticed by others.

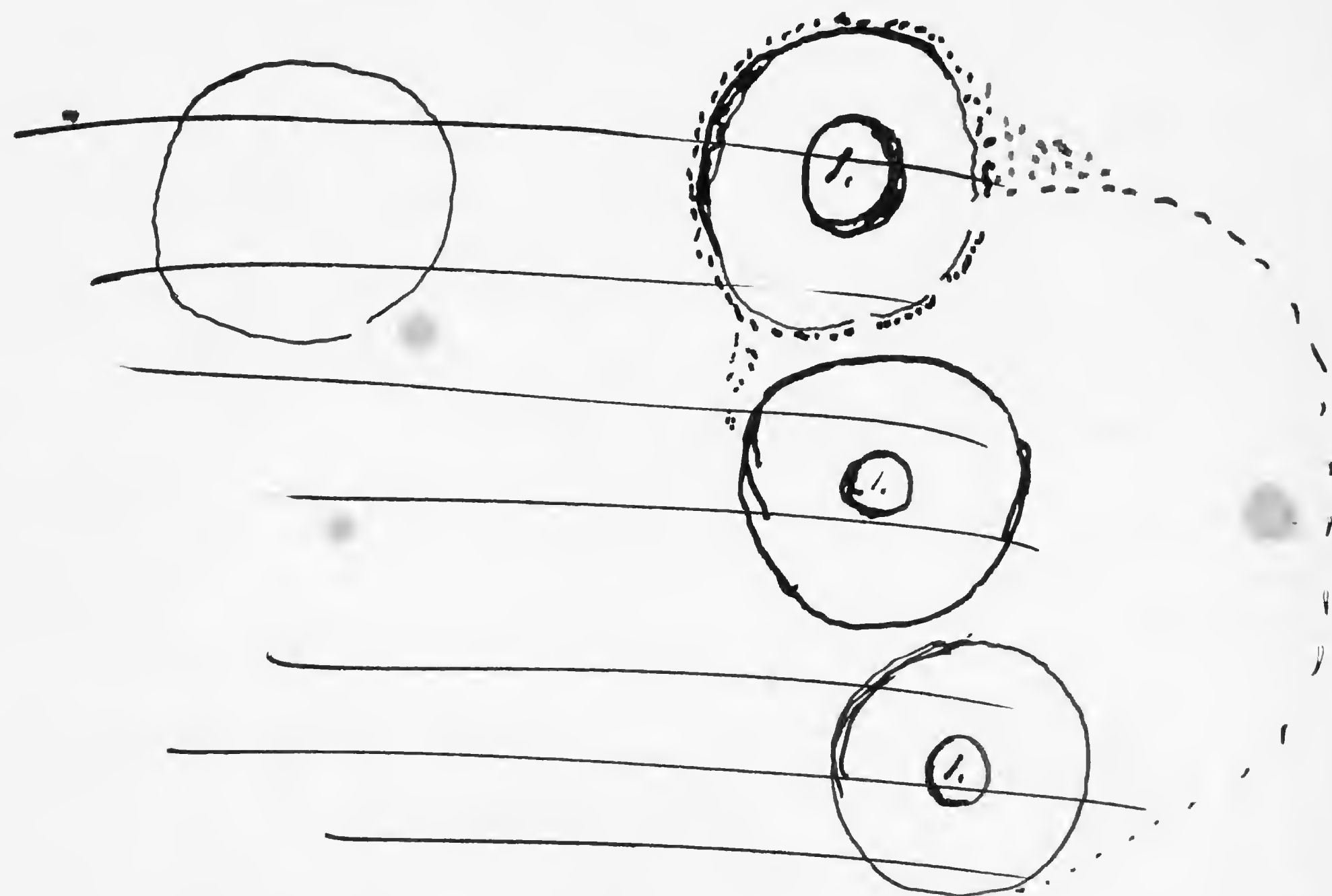
On June 10th - I left Guad^l for a trip to the west. About 30 m. west we crossed a ridge extending N-S southward rising in hills on both sides of the stage road. These hills were overgrown with small pine oaks the latter being remarkable for their extremely large rounded leaves. A few miles beyond this we reached the small miserable town of Teuchitlan where I remained several days.

Indian remains at
Teuchitlan

In the vicinity of this town are many old indian graves which can be found by the small ^{stone} pile of stones heaped up over the spot. 3 to 4 ft. below the surface in such places are often found clay vessels, idols (often a number of varying size in a place) metalles, stone celts, obsidian flakes or articles & human bones in a bad state of decay. Occasionally the places are without any deposit. These burial places are usually along the base of the low volcanic mountain. On the side of this mountain about a mile in a northeasterly direction from town I was shown 3 curious mounds built of ~~the~~ rough fragments of lava with a small amount of earth mixed in. These mounds were on a rough lava strewn hillside ~~on~~ a small bench. They were in a northerly & southerly line with the largest about 35 ft high at north, then one about 18 or 20 ft. & one about 9 or 10 ft. high in succession. They were about a half larger across ~~back~~ base than their altitude. The rocks had been cleaned away in a circle about 50 ft. broad around these mounds & the ground made very

level. This circle was bordered by a ^{low} rough stone wall with openings as marked in the following rough diagram. These rings were separated by a passage way cleared of stones as was a space fronting the circles on the S. S. E.

N. N. W.



S. S. E.

Plat 4; - see beyond for account of these monuments.

Picinus near Tsuchitlan

Tsuchitlan

I was told in town that a couple of brothers spent much money in having an excavation made in the largest cone. I saw that a hole had been dug from summit down to base & the material thrown out through a cut or open crack which cut the east side down half way. At the bottom of the excavation, which was made for trash, were found several clay images like those found in burial places & also an obsidian lance head.

I bought a few articles in town including a bowl & few obsidian articles.

In the circles surrounding these cones are planted magueys & for tequila & all the hillside is covered with same & the cones & surrounding walls are grown over with bushes & small trees.

The people here tell me that they find the deposits of idols &c. usually under small heaps of stones at a depth of 3 or 4 ft.

These mounds or cones are probably simply larger forms of the same thing covering the remains of notable persons.

The town of Tsuchitlan is remarkable for the evidence it contains of the former state of affairs. The roofs are nearly all surrounded by low walls pierced with loopholes for musketry.

Market at Tsuchitlan

Tsuchitlan is a miserable place when everyone seems to be too lifeless to get up an interest in anything. On Sunday, however, the country people flocked in and all along one side of the plaza the street was filled with booths or awnings of cotton cloth or mats raised on sticks under which mats were spread on the ground and upon them were displayed a great variety of fruits vegetables and food. The ~~people~~^{men} in their clean white cotton trousers and blouses with brightly colored scarlet blanket or varied serape thrown over one shoulder & broad rimmed sombreros, with an occasional vaquero or vaquero with ornamental ~~too~~ buckskin clothing - the women in calico with a black or plainly colored rebozo over their heads all made a sight worth seeing. Under a portal of the store fronting the plaza next the booths was a striking display of the dull brick red pottery made & used throughout the country. The fruits were arranged in little piles placed

with fantastic regularly on the
mats and usually valued at 1 cent
but often a quastilla or medio's worth
are put in a pile.

Others sold cigarettes - called Cigarros -
& little boxes of wax matches.

The people were very plain
fraternal, and are mainly of
the mixed or mestizo blood!

On Monday I took the diligencia
for Iztatlan and passing down
the valley through miles of Yegüila
fields passed the town of Ahualulco
and finally swung around the
point of some low mountains
and entered Iztatlan. ^{As we entered Ahualulco}
^{we passed a long train of mules loaded with mesquite plants taking}
^{them to the Yegüila still. The plants hold 4-6 gallons on each mule.}

Iztatlan - June -

The diligencia landed us by a stable
in a by street & I was told that there
was a meson at the plaza - getting this from
a bystander, as the driver of the stage said
he did not know whether there was a meson
or not & his manner indicated that he
considered that his having landed us in town
was all he could be expected to do. I called
out & soon found the meson de San José fronting
the plaza and kept by a young man who

Iztatlan
June

Iztatlan

was a remarkable exception to the inn-keepers I have found in the country so far. He began at once to arrange my quarters and during the entire time of my stay exerted himself in every way to assist me in my work.

I remained at this place until the 24th inst. working about the vicinity.

This is the center of a small mining district and two sets of works are running silver ores through by the patio process. At one place a large enclosure has a set of 10 or a dozen arrastras at work with mules. Machinery of a clumsy style is used for motive power with the others.

Just to the north of the town is the long shallow Laguna Magdalena some 5-8 m. broad 120 or more long but a few fathoms deep.

It contains a couple of islands near its northern shore and one of these was the refuge of the Indians when driven by the early Spaniards. On this island they fought the invaders for a long

Laguna Magdalena

Cave shelters

San Juanito

time but were conquered & a church built in the midst of the village which was built on the top of the knoll like summit of the islet. During the Mexican revolution this islet again served as a refuge for descendants of the Indians & some of the Spaniards.

It was shown a number of caves dug back into the face of a cliff of soft loose rock near the water's edge where the people slept during the time of the revolution.

The hillside of the island facing the shore is covered with an enormous amount of obsidian chips & many corros are scattered about. In places the soil is half made up of these chips and blocks of this material are numerous on the island as well as on the adjacent shore.

On the shore is now located the village of San Juanito where live the descendants of the Indians with a number of ^{the} mixed race. Many of the Indians are pure blooded and still speak the ^{the} tongue although they have lost or greatly

X word omitted -

Bell ringing

modified their ancient habits
& are counted as good Catholics.
I secured several photographs of
typical faces. (~~the rest~~)
The village of Oconagua west of
Iztatlan is also occupied by the
descendants of this same tribe
which was once a powerful
one known as the.

Their costume at present is the
same as that the Mexicans wear.
There are also many Indians in
Iztatlan and this is one of the most
devout places I have heard of.
The church is provided with several
bells and these are rung in the aggre-
gate at least 2 hours each day
beginning at daybreak ~~with~~ and
keeping it up all day with special
periods at 6, 9 & 12 a.m. & 3, 6 & 9 p.m.
when all the bells are clanged
together for 10 or 15 minutes at a
stretch enough to deafen one.
On Sundays & feast days they ring
almost continually.
On Sunday morning the people came
in by the hundred to early mass &
filled the body of the church - the steps
& out into the muddy street all kneeling

Sunday morning Mass
Lyon

illus. → (page 71)

with barred heads.

Nearly all outside worshippers were dressed in the usual white clothing & with a bright colored sash or sashlet flung over their shoulders making a magnificent display of color.

~~Later in the day I saw others kneeling in the broad church door with their~~

During a part of this same service I saw ten or twelve who were kneeling on the broad stone steps before the church door hold both arms up thus $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$. In

doing this their sash would slip down so their flowing white costume showed out picturesquely among the brilliantly colored forms about against the open portal of the church which looked black as night with a few faintly glimmering candles by the altar. Out over the hushed mass came the notes of the organ at first low, but gradually rising to full power and completing the spell of an impressive scene.

It chanced that the morning was a specially bright one after a torrent of rain and the freshness of the air was specially exalting to the spirits, put one in a mood to appreciate the strange romantic scene.

Franciscan Cloister

In this church are hung two old pictures, portraits of two of the first priests who attempted to convert these Indians and were killed by them. The ~~facta~~ portraits have a broad background on which are represented various episodes of their work among the Indians with their death all in the crudest style but recall the fascinating story of the early conquerors.

Joining on this church as a long extension at one side are the old Cloisters of the Franciscan Monks who owned the place before the days of the revolutionists but the funeral march of all such organizations in Mexico. The law also steps in to prohibit the passage of religious processions through the public streets thus depriving the church of half its display. I attended service held to honor the raising of the corpus which was once carried through the streets & every knee was bent to it of belief or unbelief. This day it was carried around inside the walls of the Cloister patio through a fence

These Indians speak the O'to-mi-ti
language

Old Coins

mass of kneeling women & a
sprinkling of men.

On my visit to the Indian village
of San Juanito by the lake an old
Indian showed me a couple of coins
that had been ploughed up by the
lake. One of copper & the other of
silver. Both are without date
and belong to the first coins struck
by the Spanish conquerors in
America. By a royal decree of
~~1535~~ 1535 (May 11) by the Queen, the coining
being begun in about 1537.

When the Spaniards first occupied
Mexico, they had no coined money
& gold or silver was used being
valued by the weight peso and
afterwards the use of this word
became fixed to the unit of value
known as the dollar peso (or dolla).
The coining of gold was forbidden by the decree.
As these two pieces represent the
first coins struck in America
by Europeans of which we have
knowledge I give the following description
of their inscriptions.

The silver piece is of 2 Reales
and bears the following stamp.

2 Real piece in silver.

On one side bordered by words
Hispaniarum et Indiarum +
with two crowned columns standing
in the sea with Plus ultra across
them (Plus ultra - the kings motto)
and above this two round dots between
columns showing value 2 reales.

Obverse

Encircled by letters

Carolus et Johannes Regs
with I M one on each side of
shield in center bearing lions
& castles with a pomegranate in
lower point.

The copper piece is 4 maravedis
& has on one side 2 circles with
Brt. which the inscription Hispaniarum
et Indiarum & in center a
large I with crown above - castle
on left & lion to right & 4 dots below.

Obverse - Carolus et Johannes
Reges +. In center a large
K with crown above castle & lion
left & right as before. Below a
pomegranate & M
The pieces are rude & apparently hand
struck.

Bat hunting in old
mines

On the 23^d of June I was ready to return
to Guadalajara but

Back of Iztacala are several old mines -
some idle & others being worked in a
small way. I went back into several
of them after bats. In one mine that had
been deserted a long time there were quite
a number of the flesh & blood eating bats
that attack the cattle horses &c. on the
neck & back.

We crawled back over great masses
of fallen rock from the roof & finally
penetrated to the extremity of the
galleries hearing the wings of the
bats all the time as they flew on ahead
& secreted themselves in inaccessible
crannies. I only secured one here.

Then we went into another old mine being
worked and after climbing down notched
logs and inclined passages for several
hundred feet to the lower levels we found
quite a number of these vampires
(# 2787 & 2788) which were living in the
extreme lower levels.

As we drew near the whirring of their
wings could be heard very distinctly
as they flew ahead & secreted themselves
in the timbering.

old miners

of one

my guides were two of the miners who were well adapted to hunt bats in the intense gloom of these depths. One was an old grizzled fellow with an enormous goitre under his chin, and the other had a ^{powerful} rounded back and shoulders with head set forward by long trailing burdens of ore up through these tortuous ways. His face was of repulsive paleness & his ^{dead} fishy eyes looked out from a ~~flat~~ countenance like that of a corpse.

He burrowed among the timbers & secured a number of the vampires in his hands, each time the vicious brute bit a piece of skin off so that his hands were streaming with blood.

The female bats had each a single young one clinging to her attached to the teat on one side with their bodies stretched across the body of the mother & holding on firmly to the fur on the other side under her wing by means of their hind claws. When pulled off they searched for something to cling to & grasped a finger or other object & clung to it instinctively. Even when quite small they squeaked & bit viciously when handled.

Bats with young

on skinning one of the females I found the teat to which the young one was fastened had a well developed set of milk glands.

Several females flew heavily away carrying their young which 3 of which were afterwards found scattered in the rocks a few yards away where they had been carried by the parent. These however were nearly life enough to fly.

These vampires are very abundant near Ameca and I was told that they kill great numbers of cattle by biting & making wounds which are then soon filled with maggots & the animal soon dies.

One district near there is so infested by them that the cattle are driven out at beginning of rainy season to prevent their all being killed in this way. From their skins I secured two other bats one being a smaller species of the extensive tongue kind.

The morning of the 23^d finding that I could not take all my outfit in the diligencia I hired a man with 2 saddle animals & pack mule & started for Guadalupe. A late start brought

virgin sent to stop the rain
hail at Ahualulco

After this storm passed I was riding along the plain when I saw a Coracora Eagle chasing a half grown hare with great spirit. The hare avoided the casts of the Eagle by doubling and little bursts of speed but the Eagle was keeping in dogged pursuit & would have worn out the hare very soon but the latter took refuge in a hole dug in a small bank under a small bush. This hole ran back about 15 in. & then turned abruptly to the right & was enlarged & 18 in deep & must have been the former entrance. This hare was born as the entrance was to become for it to have seen it otherwise

us to Ahualulco at 10 a.m. and to Trenchitlan at 6 p.m. with a lame pack mule. Some days ago violent hail showers visited Ahualulco and a messenger was sent post haste for a priest & the image of the virgin in the church at ~~Trenchitlan~~ Tzatlum. She was taken in a carriage with the priest to Ahualulco followed by a long procession of men & women on foot while the bell in the church at Tzatlum tolled slowly like a knell to express the sorrow over her departure. She was kept in Ahualulco while 9 masses were said to secure against further hail. Today, less than a week later, while on the road east of Ahualulco a terrific storm of rain & hail fell from a cloud at the foot of the mts. and swept out over the plain like a dingy gray wall enveloping Ahualulco as though no virgin had been there so recently. We were just at the outer edge of it but the blast of icy air driven from its center chilled us & gave me a severe cold. As a change of over 20 degrees in temp. occurred in less than 5 minutes. I rode over & captured the hare for a specimen.

Tenchitlan
Jalisco
June

Indian
Mounds

Indian mounds at
Tenchitlan

In the morning I got my men off for Guad-
alara at 5 am and then I went
a mile above town on the lava stream
hillside to the "Guachimonton" or
ancient mounds there are there.
This vicinity is noted for having yielded
quite a number of clay images & other
articles of clay, obsidian & stone.
So far as I could learn these things are
usually found under small conical
piles of stones found on the hillside
or at edge of the level valley.

They are usually accompanied by
badly decayed fragments of human
bones & are at a depth of 3 to 4 ft. below
the surface.

The "Guachimonton" consists of 3
mounds of stones & earth situated
on a bench-like part of the rocky
hillside above the town of Tenchitlan.
They are ~~part~~ overgrown with small
trees & bushes except where the circular
area about base of each is cleared &
planted to mescal. I made a rough
but approximately accurate series
of measurements of these mounds
& surrounding work & plot them
as shown on next pages. I may
add that a large excavation was made into the

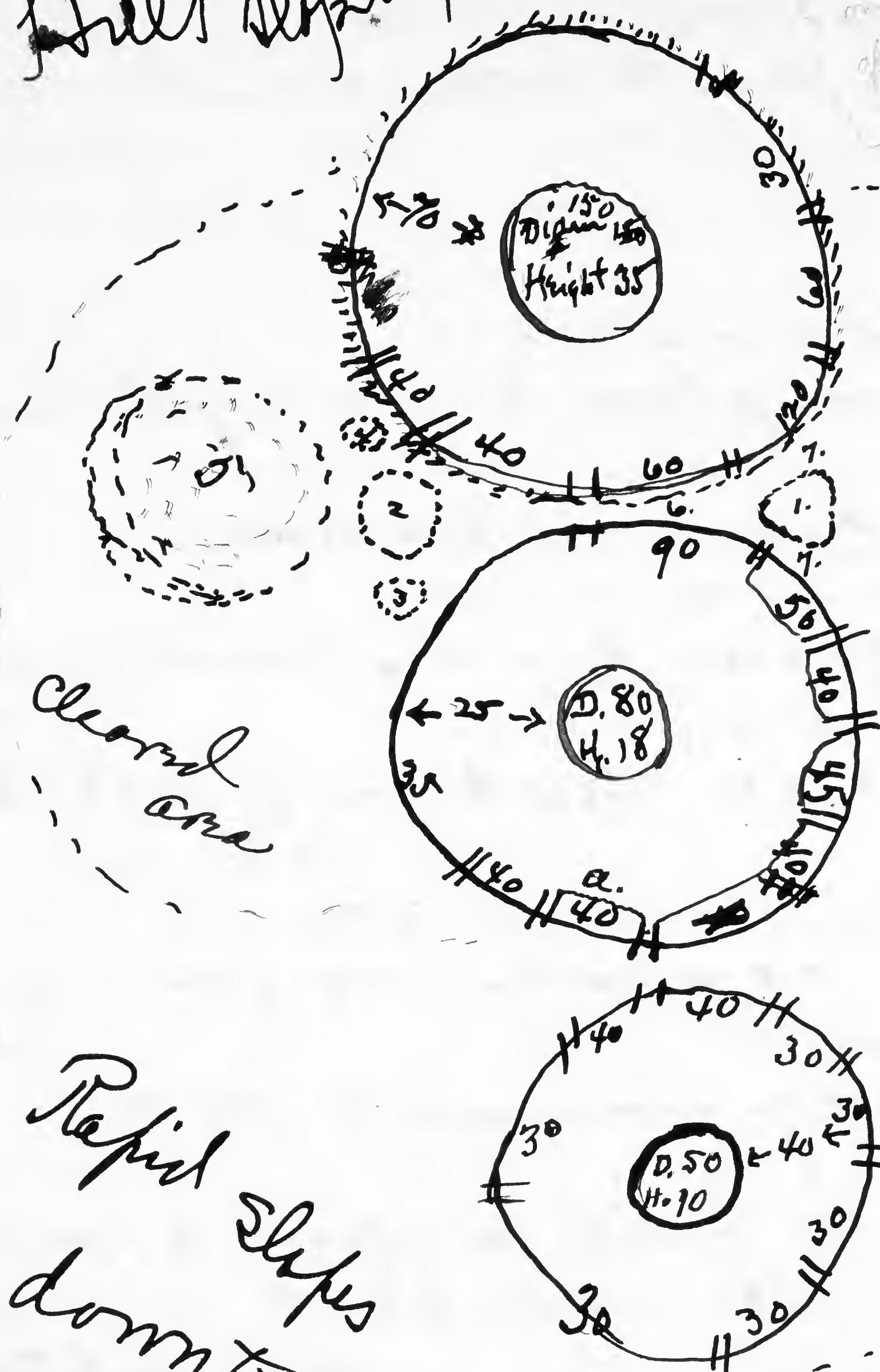
top side of largest mound two years ago for
treasure. near the bottom a number of
clay images, like those found in burial places
described, & some obsidian implements
were found & the work abandoned.
The mound seems to be about half earth
& half rough loose lava rock of the locality
intermixed. Externally the ~~earth~~ mound
shows only the loose lava rocks.

The mounds are nearly circular (as
are the surrounding rings & walls) and
are rounded cones.

To the N. & N.E. rises the rough rocky hill
slope covered with bushes. To E. ~~and~~
is a cleared smooth area cleared
of stones & a smaller area of same
on W. To W. & S. the hill slopes rapidly
from the monuments to the
valley. I give the measurements on the
sketch & make no effort to draw
to scale. The walls about rings are
ruinous & overgrown with vegetation
hard to distinguish & never more
than roughly formed of the rough loose
boulders of lava. No sign of sculptured
stone of any kind is visible.

The wall of ring in second circle is thickened
to form 5 chambers on S.E. side as
shown.

Hills sloping (E.N.E.) up



Rapid slopes
down to valley (W.S.W.)

Legend: 1, 2, 3 & 4 are rather flat topped
piles of stone of shape indicated.

1. is about 10 ft. across & 4 ft. high
3 & 4 are 6 ft. across & same height
2 is 12 ft. across & 7 ft. high.

5 is apparently a new mound started
and abandoned at height of 4 ft.

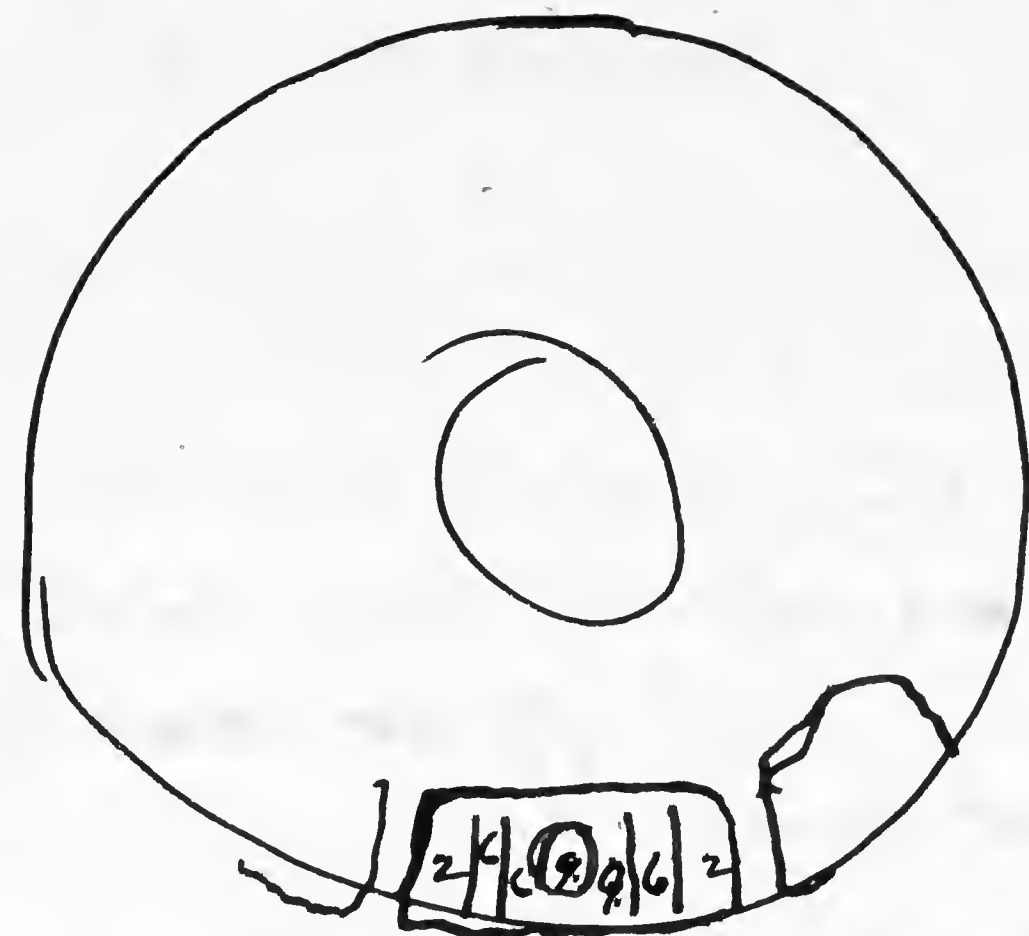
The passage ways between outer
walls of circles are 40 ft. across (#6)
+ between no 1 & walls (#4) 20 ft wide.

The circles are about 4 to 5 ft. below
tops of surrounding ruined walls.

The exits marked // across circles
are cleared passage ways through
walls on level with floor of circle
and about 10 ft. wide.

The starting point for measuring
these is at passageway opposite next
to adjacent circle.

As a rule the walls appear 4 to 6 ft. thick
but on SE. of middle circle as indi-
cated are 5 chambers in the wall
which is thickened there to some 12 ft.
On next page is plan given of the
arrangement of stones on upper
surface of first chamber marked a. in
plot.



The figures show no of feet between the
indicated points. The parallel lines
& circle were formed apparently by
a single line of stones.

A similar arrangement was seen
on some goeths but they were more
overgrown & less easily ~~measured~~ ^{accessibly}
for measurement. At least 3 of
the 5 chambers had these lines
circles in this pattern & probably
all. From this point is a fine
view for miles up & down the
valley. The passage ways between
2 largest circles & small piles are
beautifully smoothed especially
the main one between two circles
40 ft wide which is perfectly straight
with evenly levelled bottom & well
marked sides.

Bandit killed at
Izatlán

As soon as I concluded my measurements I mounted & started for Izatlán. At noon I overtook my men & passing them took dinner at a wayside posada and then on to town making 49 m. from Teuchitlan in $8\frac{1}{2}$ hours without turning a hair of my horse. 3 hours later my men came in. For the last 12 miles of road I found a soldier's patrol every mile or so & passed several of the little grass huts they have built on prominent hillocks ~~where~~ by the road where they can be sheltered from rain or the midday sun & still keep an eye on the road.

The necessity for this is evident from the occurrence at Izatlán just before I got there. Word was taken to town by a boy that a notorious robber was near a certain place so about 40 of the men armed themselves & sallied out. His horse was seen by a solitary house & before he knew it he was surrounded. He dashed out with a revolver in each hand and broke through the press and fought the entire lot while retreating for about a league. Then a chance shot killed him.

For some 15 years this fellow has
raided the country from Ameca
& adjacent parts living in the mts.
On one occasion he came into Ameca
alone one night during a ball and
suddenly entering the ball room
caught a young girl by the hair
and dragged her swiftly out of doors
and ~~throwing her~~ across his horse
neck leaped into the saddle as
a crowd of young men came rushing
out to the rescue.

Turning he snatched a revolver
into the crowd killing 3 of them
and escaping into the hills with
the girl.

Afterwards he was attacked by a
party of soldiers and killed five
of them and escaped.

June 24 to 30th Guadalajara

One afternoon I wandered into the Cathedral
and a small friar to an attendant took me
into the Sacristy where I had a view of the
beautiful marillo representing
the Assumption of the Virgin.

During the French invasion this picture
was taken from its frame, rolled up

Cathedral

Marillo

First Governor's palace in
Manila history

and concealed. After an failing to find it the French offered \$30000. for it but without success.

Among the interesting buildings of the city is the ruin of the ancient palace of the Governors. This ^{site} is now occupied by the "Mason de Medrano"

One of the first governors, Don Francisco Porja had a beautiful daughter who loved a young man whose hopes the father refused to sanction & sworn he would not ^{allow} ~~prevent~~ the young couple agreed upon an elopement.

One dark night he concealed himself near at hand and ascended to the bed chamber of the girl by means of a ladder which she had fastened to the ~~side~~ balcony. Before they had a chance to descend however, the girl's brother having heard some noise burst into the room sword in hand.

A duel ^{on the spot} followed between the two young men & the brother fell. At this the sister was filled with horror and refused to follow ~~the~~ the lover saying that her brother's blood lay between them forever. The unfortunate lover then fled by himself. The girl wild with

the terrible occurrences. ~~untied a~~
rope from the ladder and hung her-
self from the balcony.

The father was ill in bed and when
he was told of the death of his two
children he uttered a cry and fell
back dead lifeless.

The following afternoon the remains
of the father & children were buried
in the same grave.

Thenceforth the Palacio de D. Adriano
was looked upon with horror and
~~old~~ ~~rooms~~ it was whispered about that
the ghosts of the father & children had been
seen there and the place was abandoned
for a new building on the present site.

Among the odd signs one encounters
here such as ~~or~~ historical names
are noticeable & one tells us that

The sons of Ponce de Leon ~~are~~
~~the~~ ^{are} professors of dentistry,
and Costes, Alvarado and Núñez
are following more peaceful
occupations than their epoch-making
namesakes.

In the state of Jalisco in 1890-91
the state schools had 38130 children
of both sexes in 456 schools. Even

in out of the way indian villages
I was often surprised to see a large
sign "Escuela Oficial para niños"
showing that the government is actively
at work trying to raise the standing of
the poor.

The priests among other things have
a lottery of souls that they practice as
follows: A Gregorian mass is
supposed to take a soul out
of purgatory but is expensive
ranging from 60 to 100 dollars, so
is beyond reach of poor people.
In order to get around this a notice
is stuck on church doors now &
then announcing that one of these
masses is to be said and that a
certain number of tickets will
be sold for it at \$1.00 each. These
tickets are sold & before the mass
begins a drawing is held made by
the priest & whoever holds the lucky
number has mass said for the
soul of his relation.

The Virgin of Zapopan (a small
village near Guadalajara) is a favorite
local patroness. I saw posted on the

Souls taken from Purgatory
by lottery

Virgin of Zapopan

Church doors in Guadalajara handbills
announcing that "Our Lady of Zapopan"
would visit the churches of Guad^l
in the following order & then followed
a programme of dates giving the various
churches from 2 to 6 or 8 days each according
to their importance. In the churches ser-
vices are held in her honor & she remains
in Guad^l till the ~~end of the~~ end of
the rainy season. The small image
is then hauled back to Zapopan in
a carriage and a church service
& general celebration of the event
follows

In 1886 a sumptuary law was
published at Guadalajara ordering
that "no man should appear in
the streets without pants."
Thence prohibiting the wearing in town
of the loose wide cotton (white) trousers
or Calzones as they are called in
distinction to the pantaloons.
The common people therefore put
on some kind of a garment over
the Calzones when they get to the frontier
or city gate. This law was passed because
the Calzones were supposed to be immodest.
They are in general use in the country.

Sumptuary Law

Religious Exercises

Habits of Nasua nasua
when young.

and smaller towns by the poor people.

Religious exercises are practiced at all seasons of the year & the person who takes them goes into seclusion on Saturday night and remains until a week from the next Monday a.m.

Easter week is the time when they are more largely & generally practiced than at any other time.

At this time a state of excitement is worked up that sometimes results in insanity and one instance was told me of a young lady's death resulting from it.

While sitting in my hotel today I saw a man leading a young *Nasua* by with a string. I bought it & was amused by its odd performances. It was very gentle - not offering to bite but trying to pull away when on the floor and when picked up by grasping it about the back by one hand - it would at once clap its paws over its eyes and hold them there until put down almost exactly like a frightened child and

Cage birds -
The Mexican
nightingale

(The Tzintzontle is the mocking bird
& this name is said to mean
bird of a hundred songs.

The common name for humming-
bird Chupa rosa = rose-sucker.

when hurt accidentally, it
uttered a shrill scream but
made no other sound.

The Mexicans are very fond of
cage & singing birds & parrots.
The mocking bird is a favorite
and also the Tzintzontle, Myadestes
unicolor?

This latter is a small slate colored
bird about the size of a blue bird
and well earns its title of the
"Mexican nightingale"

Its song is short but high, clear
and mellow with such a liquid,
piercing tenderness in it that
only the pen of a Keats could
do it justice. It carries in it
the very soul of a woodland
spirit and conjures up a nameless
sweet melancholy such as falls to
the portion of a nature-lover when far
away in some cloister-like shade
of heavy woodland where he
forgets that he is of humanity and
its petty ills a part, but sweetly
sinks into forgetfulness of all
except that he too ~~has a~~ is a part of
this nature-soul wherein dwells

branty and not past mortal
reach.

The note rises and falls in its
melody telling of wild, wild
things in remote forest depths
and vine-hung Canon walls
where all alone for time unin-
imaginable ^{have} gone on the Branton
Changes of the flowering seasons
under a sky that is never harsh
in its severest moods.

Copy note here

On the 7th of July I left
Guadalajara and travelled by
rail to Celaya in Guanajuato.
The road follows up the valley of
the Rio Grande de Santiago all of this
way and runs over a magnificently
fertile region of rich black soil.
The rain has made the country a
mass of vivid green except where
the farmers are working in the
crops with their rude tools.

About Irapuato are great straw-
berry fields where fine berries
are raised, and here at Celaya also.
In the market here are now sold
small apples, peaches, pomegranates,
pears, quinces, melons, mangos and

Guad^L to Celaya

Irapuato

Celaya
(Quanaquato)

Sunday market in
Celaya

a variety of other fruits. They are mainly small & very poor quality since the fruits of the temperate zone require more care than they get here to give good results.

The market here in Celaya is held in the open street about the principal church. Holes are made in wooden blocks which are set in the stone pavement & in these a wooden frame-work like a huge umbrella is raised & covered with white cotton cloth & under this shade the vendors of every imaginable thing squat - men, women & children, and a ceaseless swarm of purchasers swarm back & forth buying & chaffering in a slow deliberate low-voiced manner over 3 or 6 cents worth of this or that.

Women go about with little baskets buying 3 cents worth of meat, several kinds of vegetables in minute quantities for the same sum. 2 or 3 cents of bread & a few cents of bananas or other fruit and her day's marketing is done. Some women are doing a good business roasting

Sunday market in Celaya

Celaya
(Guerrero)

green corn over a clay brazier
with a charcoal fire & selling it
for a cent an ear. Others are
selling it boiled.

Several of the Umbrellas shelter
dealers in old iron, bottles &
other junk & it is a motley col-
lection of the most absurd odds &
ends.

One man was going about trying to
sell 3 large hand made iron spikes.
And hundreds of men & women
in picturesque but filthy rags
were wandering about or sitting
crouched up in corners.

This was Sunday July 3. and a
specially busy market day.

This place is located in the central
plain or table land of Mexico &
has suffered like the rest of that region
from two to 3 years of drought so
that large quantities of corn is
being imported from the U.S. &
sold at cost to the poor.

On the night of July 4th, Mr. Pringle
came in on train and on consultation
with him I decided to give up the trip to

Chihuahua the present season and
to continue work in central Mex.
till fall.

Got my assistant over from
~~Acambaro~~ ^{Drifnato} and
took him down to Acambaro
when I left him until my return
from Mexico City where I went
with Mr. Bringle.

Acambaro is also on the central
table-land on the banks of the
Lerma. The Mex. Nat. R.R. follows
in a general way up the course of this
the largest of Mexican rivers and
crosses its source, Lake Lerma,
just east of Toluca.

For hours before we reach the
valley of Toluca wherein lies this
lake we rise through a series of
open, rolling hills beautifully
green, dotted with hacienda build-
ings and broken by numerous
square areas of corn newly
started or just planted.

To the west and ahead of us rise
by gradual elevations the mts.
forming the western border of
the Central table-land.

After ~~cross~~ entering the valley of Iduea,
the volcano of this name is seen
rising to the S.W. with a dark green
belt of pine timber clothing its sides
from the open cultivated foot-
hills up to the rugged barren lava-
covered summit rising above
timber line. As we swept through
the valley a heavy leaden storm cloud
enveloped the peaks and through
occasional rifts glimpses of snow
could be seen in the angles of the

cliffs & ~~chasms~~ ^{chasms} of the high summit.
After crossing the Lake of Iduea,
we wound & twisted our way up
the high mt. sides & crossing a
divide at an elevation of
over 10,000 ft. near Salazar
Station, descended through a
series of sharp curves & grades
down into the beautiful valley
of Mexico.

Far in the distance could
be seen the shimmer of the wood-
framed lakes about whose shores
were enacted the stirring drama
of Cortez & Moctezuma.
The sun was shining brightly
as we steamed out into the

Brilliantly green valley beyond which arise the massive wall of mountains among whose cloud-bidden summits arise Popocatepetl & her companions the "White Lady".

From both sides while crossing this mountain rim between the valleys of Toluca & Mexico ~~at~~ a series of very beautiful & inspiring views are obtained such as are rarely afforded from a car window.

The great elevation, however, renders the air so cool that a light overcoat is very useful in the open "observation" car that is run across these mts.

Descending the eastern or Valley of Mex. slope the hillsides are covered with pulque, or maguey plantations which are arranged in patches with long rows of the plants following ~~at the~~ the curves of the hill contours in parallel rows & giving a very odd appearance to the slopes.

Several little towns or passed
lying below the track so that
the view is made up of a small
sea of brick-colored tiles
cut by irregular streets
along which wander, broad-
ratted, serape-wrapped men
& women with rebocos drawn
tightly about them.

Viewed thus from above, the
objects are dwarfed until
the scene seems almost
like a drama filled in with
toy people & houses to which
the little fields & stiff magueys
all about add to the unrelativity.
Early in the afternoon we
ran into the city through an
evil-smelling street that
gives a poor opinion of the
sanitary regulations in force.

July 5th In City of Mexico -

On the morning of the 6th I called
upon the American Minister,
Hon. Thos. Ryan, and explained my
desire to obtain letters from
Señor Romero, minister of the Interior.

San Luis Potosi

Michoacan

To the Governor of Michoacan
San Luis Potosi. Armed with
a card of introduction from
Mr. Ryan, I called upon Mr.
Romero and was courteously
received and my request
granted at once.

Mr. Romero is a slight, thin, gray-
haired man apparently suffer-
ing from overwork & poor health.
His ante-room was crowded
with people waiting for an
interview and a swarm of clerks
and officials were going in
& out with books & documents
for the minister's signature and
attention.

This department of the Govt is in
a state of confusion and Mr.
Romero has been recalled
from his long term as minister
at Washington to straighten out
matters and evidently has a
heavy task before him.

In all matters that I have
become familiar with in
business, both public & private,
in Mexico the lack of an effective
system is very apparent.

One of the most striking & familiar illustrations is in the arrangements of letter lists at the post offices.

A list-alphabetically arranged ^{& numbered} is hung up containing the arrivals by each mail from each direction and the letters are kept in apartments by days in place of by letters, so that unless you search through a long series of lists very carefully & give the exact number of your letter to a clerk you cannot hope to get a letter.

As frequently occurs, a letter or package will be overlooked and not entered on the list; in which case it is sheer accident if the owner ever hears of it again. At Guadalajara I had a half dozen packages lying in the office for over a month that were not entered on the list, and the clerks all said there were no such packages for me; yet when I had ordered another set of articles, thinking the first were lost, the latter were produced.

with the last arrivals but bearing
a post mark showing that they
had been lying in the offices
for about 5 weeks while I
had been almost a daily
caller for mail and had become
quite well known to the clerks.
There is an excessive amount
of stupidity among the clerks
that is hard to understand
~~after~~ by anyone familiar with
the alertness required of postal
clerks in the U.S. and I think
this accounts to a great extent to
the deep rooted distrust of the P.O.
I find among people in Mex.
When a bright, intelligent
postal official is encountered,
even in the large cities, it is always
a startling surprise.

After attending to my business
with Senor Romero, I paid
a visit to the National
Museum which was undergoing
repairs in the Archaeological Hall.
Above, in company with the
botanist, Mr. Pringle, I found
the Zoological & Botanical

National
Museum

parts of the museum in charge
of a professor of botany,
with a zoological assistant,
Señor Prof. Alfonso L. Herrera, M.D.
The collection contains a poor
series of mounted birds &
mammals of the country with
alcoholics of fishes & reptiles.
The collection is very badly labeled
with almost a total lack of date
as to locality, date & collector
which are generally considered
indispensable.

In the birds & mammals, not
a tithe of the common species are
represented and the museum
is wholly without any study
specimens except those mounted
on exhibition.

The library is also extremely scanty
so that the naturalists in charge
labor under the greatest difficulty
in identifying their material.
Some additions are being made
to the archaeological series &
the botanical department is taking
a series of plants from Mr. Pringle
but the zoological department
appears to be at a standstill.

The gentlemen in Charge are very cordial and polite in their reception of visiting naturalists, but their work is sadly hampered by their isolation from centers of scientific work & their lack of appreciation of the value of field work in developing the rich field they occupy. As a result the publications of a scientific character in Mex. are very largely given to a reproduction of the results published by foreign naturalists, of work in Mex.

I am also assured that this is also a failing in other branches of sciences outside those in which I am more or less familiar.

This comes to a great extent, in the natural sciences at least, from the national distaste of the higher or educated classes for rough work of any kind such as is a necessity in doing fieldwork. There is a general tendency toward a fossilization or rut-tapism that assumes a satisfaction with the work as already accomplished.

As a consequence, Mexico is a field which yields abundant harvest to the foreign naturalist while the resident naturalists accept their results and reiterate them in their publications with but few additions of value. However, the people are awakening to a feeling of their lack in many ways and under the present ^{militarized} Gov't much may be hoped for in the advance of the country toward the position in the world's progress occupied by other civilized nations.

From the tower of the cathedral fronting the main plaza, we looked out in all directions over the ~~open~~ expanse of the valley with its marshy lakes, and enjoyed one of the most beautiful views of the world.

The cathedral is built upon the site of the temple of Sun where the Aztecs made their sacrifices to their blood-demanding gods. Today the plaza below where once congregated the people

to view the sacrificial pro-
cessions of flower-decked victims
is the central point of the
great net-work of horse-car
lines that extend out from
this point in every direction,
and is a busy scene of
activity from morning
until night.

The familiar appearance
of cars bearing the name
of John Stephenson or
The Brill Co. serve to
modernize the plaza &
detract from its picturesque
although they are very convenient
adjuncts to travel about the
city, - as the lines run out
in various directions for
some miles to suburban towns
In Guadalajara and Colima
& Morelia. The main stores
of the town are gathered in
the postales about the central
plaza, but in Mexico they have
left the postales to a cheap
grade, and the finest establish-
ments & main offices of large
business houses & banks are

Along San Francisco St. extending
west from the plaza.

Passing a railed enclosure
at the edge of the plaza near
the Cathedral, I saw a beautiful
showing of flowers, roses, tub-
eroses, hyacinths, gladioli &c, &c
made up into great bouquets
very temptingly arranged.

Mr. Dingle suggested that
I price some of them, so I asked
one of the Indian flower sellers
how much he wanted for a
large bouquet he had before him.
"3 Reales, Señor" he replied.

I turned away, but before I got
out of ear shot he had reduced
the price to 2 & then to 1 Real &
then asked what I would give.

While a host of other bouquets
were held up before me in
bawling a day - as to a
Prima Donna's first night
at ridiculously low prices.

In the City of Mexico the number
of fine-looking though small
sized police men seen is

quite striking & it is evidently
a systematic choosing of such
men to make a favorable showing
for the police force of the capital.
Soldiers are on regular
guard duty at the entrances
of the government buildings &
uniforms are to be seen at
frequent intervals on the
streets.

The police and gendarmerie
system of this country is
very effective in restoring
oppressing public tranquillity.
The escape ~~and~~ law applied
to prisoners of an obnoxious
class which is in active force
not only serves as a rapid
process of weeding out old
malefactors but has a salutary
influence on would-be criminals.

~~See~~

On Sunday morning July
I left Mex. City with Mr. Pringle
& we stopped over for half a day at
Tren Hueso the Summit Station
Salazar on ridge west of the City of Mex.
This point is about 10000 ft. alt. &

is in the region of pines & firs
between the Toluca Valley, V. of Mex.
It is a cold place given to hail
& cold rains in summer &
occasionally a few inches of snow
in winter. Arvicolas are abundant.
In the afternoon, Mr. Pringle hav-
ing secured a number of plants, we
boarded another north bound
train and arrived at Acapulco at
middle of night. Thence early
in the morning we took a train
for Lake & town of Patzcuaro.
Stopping over at Morelia - the
capital of Michoacan to see the
Governor receive letters from
him to the Jefe Político of the
districts we wish to visit.
We found the Gov., Señor Don Aníbal
Mereado, a very affable gentle-
man who furnished us ^{the} letters we
desired & then desired information
concerning the scale insect
of aphids which is destroying
the coffee trees in the central
part of this state. I left instruc-
tions for writing the Secy of Agri-
culture U.S. in reference to the
matter.

Having some time at our disposal,
we visited the public garden
at the east side of town & were
charmed & surprised at the
novelty of the place.

Crossing the low ground track
the knoll on which stands the city
is a large aqueduct supported
on massive stone arches, the
work of many years ago
in the good old days of peon
labor. The same effect at
a little of the cost could be had
now by means of iron pipe
laid underground, but by
this would be lost a picturesque
& striking monument.

The main "garden" is a beautiful
piece of wild woodland in al-
most a state of nature, level
& overgrown with various trees
& some smaller growths
interspersed by footpaths which
are neglected enough so that one
almost forgets he is in the
border of a city within a few
minutes walk of its centre.
Passing back under the aqueduct
we came to a small square with

a fountain and full of flowers
small trees & bushes of many
fine indigenous varieties.
This ~~garden~~ is called the Aztec
garden from a number of
grotesque images & statuettes
cut from stone that are
made in rude imitation of the
ancient Aztec work.

A considerable variety of
native plants are scattered ~~thru~~
fully throughout this garden &
with artistic picturesqueness
refreshing to see.

We were told that this had been
done under the direction of the
governor of the state, who had
recently died.

Afterwards we visited "The school
of arts," a state school
where boys are taught black-
smithing, carpentry, wood-car-
ving and iron working.

Schools of this character are
supported by the state governments
~~throughout~~ throughout the country and as
one of the many ways in which an
effort is being made by the

at capitals of states.

liberal government to raise
the standard of education &
usefulness of its citizens.
When seeing such efforts,
one cannot but heartily say
long life to the administration
that has made such things possible
in a country so out & torn by
warring factions but a few
years ago.

There is a museum started in
the gov't palace at Morelia, but
after spending 2 or 3 hours in
trying to find the man who had
the key we gave up the task.

From Acaucbaro to Morelia the
R. road is very crooked as it
rises a stiff grade & passes
through a series of rolling
Cactus-strewn hills between
Acaucbaro & L. Tuitzeo.

The latter is a brackish lake
abt. 20 or 30 m. long & the sink
of a river flowing in from Mt.
San Andres beyond Morelia.
On the flat shore of the lake is
a deposit of saline earth

which is scraped into little
heaps by the Indians ^{of Mexico}
of the vicinity & then leached
by a rude process to obtain
the salt it contains.

On a part of this flat stands
a large, roofless stone building
surrounded by the foundations
of other stone structures.

I was informed that this building
had been erected by a Frenchman
some years ago who proposed
establishing a plant here for
the proper ~~treatment~~ ^{refining} of
salt in an improved manner.
The people worked for him
until the works were well on
toward completion & then, for
fear that their crude method
of salt making would be super-
seded, they assassinated the new-
comer and the abandoned works
are his monument.

Near the shore of this lake a mile
or so beyond the station
of Duerodaro in a marshy
flat is a series of a dozen
or more hot springs from
which flow streams of almost

* Some of these hot springs are utilized by the women for washing clothes the hot water being led into a pool made to one side of the outlet where the water cools enough to be used. At one such place where a number of smooth washing stones were ranged about the border scores of rude little wooden crosses made by tying together two small pieces of ~~wood~~ twigs or sticks with fibers of the mesquite. These were hung in the branches of an overhanging mesquite tree or stuck into the earth about the water on the bank formed by throwing up the earth.

Boiling water impregnated slightly with lime & sulphur. The water is so hot that it ~~is~~ instantly kills insects that drop in it & I found a dead field rat lying in the edge of one stream where it had evidently stumbled & been killed at once.

Mr. Pringle took advantage of ~~these~~ some of these hot springs to dip in them certain fleshy leaved plants to scald them & so hasten their drying. *

Extending back from this lake are some small flats covered with mesquites, acacias, Peppers, Irons & a dozen or more other ~~trees~~ small trees beside a large number of large tree-like Opuntias with flat leaves.

Pelicans, cormorants, grebes, Wood Ibis, Herons & bitterns were conspicuous birds on this lake & I secured several species of fishes from it at Querrudaro.

On my return from Patzún the first of Aug. I stopped here

Monday

August

at Tlaximunda for a few days
& was hospitably taken care of by
the agents of the R.R. at this
place setting up my cot in
the depot baggage room.

Stopping here at this time was
a young Mex. gentleman who
came here from the City of Mex.
to see if he could not be benefitted
by the air for his weak lungs.

He had a quick intelligence
& had with him several scientific
works which he was studying
and had quite a good knowledge
of the genera of plants.

He was very liberal in his
sentiments politically but was
very bitter against the present gov-
ernment, speaking of Gen. Diaz
as "that tiger". He expressed great
admiration for the Americans
because they were educated &
intelligent enough to govern
themselves in a democratic way
and considered it due to the character
of the people who first colonized
the country. To the Spaniards
he laid most of the failings of
the Mex. people & their ignorance

and said that all their misery
& bad govt came from the ig-
norance of the masses.

While quite right in many of
his deductions, he showed the
unreasoning impulsiveness of
his race in his rabid denials
of all good in the present govt
and claimed that a state of
revolution was better than
the present dictatorship under
the guise of a republic.

To a foreigner, however, the
relative security to life &
property throughout Mex. is
a very pleasant thing as com-
pared with the condition of affairs
a few years ago.

Quarroy is regarded by the
same man & others of his same
fring as Mexico's greatest man.

Among other things I could not
but notice the characteristic
failing of his countrymen in his
studying at the same time 3 or
4 branches of science &
speaking of some of the leading
scientific men of Mex. as being

very intelligent - knowing all
branches as he put it.
This is the greatest failing of the
man of ability in a scientific
way - they get a little glorious
branches of science & become
proficient in none.

The work of the scientific ex-
ploration of Mex. is being done
now, as heretofore, by foreigners
who appreciate the richness of
the field.

In nearly every capital in
the country exists a scientific
society & the beginning of a
museum which continues
to remain a beginning.

My friend at Querendaro asked
me if I had met the members
of the scientific society in
Guad. I said that I had not
as I did not know of its ex-
istence at the time of my visit
there. "That is a pity," ~~said~~ he
~~but he~~ said "for they are very
intelligent men & very active.
Why they are in correspondence
with nearly every state in
the republic."

"It is strange," I remarked,
"that the zoology & botany &c of
the state remains so unknown
for I ~~found~~ Mr. Pringle & I
found its botany & zoology
almost unknown."

"Oh!" he exclaimed, "they do not
attempt field-work - they are
close naturalists."

In other words, there exists what
is considered a group of ^{so-called} very
active scientific men in
one of the largest cities of the
republic at whose very door
are ~~many~~ many interesting
matters for investigation
lying awaiting the research of
some one from a foreign
country while these "scientists"
carry on voluminous correspond-
ence with societies of a similar
character throughout the republic.

This light & scattering char-
acter of the Mexicans inherited
from the Spaniards is shown
in many ways beside their
unstable devotion to science:
I have so frequently had them

say "I will see you again tomorrow" - mentioning the hour, - and when tomorrow came they had forgotten all about it were probably making similar engagements elsewhere.

Emilio Castelar in his article upon Columbus in the Century for Aug. '92 gives an apt characterization of this mental trait in the Spaniards that it is worth repetition in this connection. He remarks that the Spaniards are an impulsive people who jump at hasty conclusions from a statement of the first principle & that if one thinks of doing a thing his mind at once leaps from its inception to the finish and he sees it mentally as already done, - impatient & ~~he~~ often utterly ignoring the frequently laborious means for its accomplishment.

From Morelia the R.R. goes on gradually ascending and as green hills until it reaches its terminus.

on the shore of Lake Patcuato
at an alt. of about 6000 ft.
Here I practiced my letter to the
Jefe Politico and then settled
down to work at the Hotel Itepa
near the station on the lake shore.
This is one of the worst hotels I found
in Mex. while it is situated in
one of the most beautiful spots
in the republic.

An irregular lake winding about
in bays among the hills for 15
miles or so & not over about 200
ft. deep in deepest place.

Here & there along shore are masses
of rushes & flag with a brood belt
of the yellow water lily (*Nymphaea*
mexicana) in the open spaces
along shore.

From the shore of the lake the hills
rise in sweeping contours - no-
where forming cliffs but even
in harmonious slopes & rounded
butresses of volcanic soil
over which is spread a cover
of vivid green along the lower
slopes, broken by areas of corn
land or the roofs & walls of
the numerous towns & villages

that lie close to the water's edge.
Back of this the slopes rise
to the tops of round-topped hills
+ long ridges from a few hundred
up to 1500 ft. above the water.
The higher slopes are dark
green from the growth of
pines + oaks of several species
which begin some ~~at~~ 200 ft
above the water and cover all
the hill tops with few exceptions.

Over these hills sweep a wonderful
variety of cloud formations.
Now that the rainy season is in
progress these vapor masses
afford a source of gratification.
Now sweeping in voluminous
masses, one piling on the other,
blotting out all the landscape,
and dashing down torrents of
water into the ruffled foam
of the lake while a forbidding
gloom as of approaching night
shuts us in. Then again a
cloud comes silently over the
hill-crests and marches across
the horizon with a trailing ^{gray} veil
of falling water reaching down

to the earth, while all about
a vivid sunshine and patches
of brilliantly blue sky aloft &
reflected below in the lake
make the scene worthy a
poet's ~~own~~ praise.

About this lake & in the surrounding
districts live the numerous
tribe of Tarasco Indians who
are an industrious and ~~industrious~~
rough, ugly-featured people,
still retaining much of their
primitive customs & dress.

These people were one of the most
powerful of the Indian tribes inhabiting
the country at the time of the Conquistadors
(then an about 700,000 Indians in
Michoacan according to recent
gov't reports.)

These people occupy numerous
villages about Lake Patzcuaro
& cross the lake in considerable numbers
every day in canoes to bring
stuff to market in Patzcuaro.
Among one of the main articles
brought is the root of the saccaton
grass which they dig up & clean of its
bark & it is then done up in small
bundles & baled. This is shipped to the U.S.

Numbers

is used for making small stiff
finishes.

On Fridays is the main market day
in Patzún and the two plazas are
filled with these Indians who
have for sale a great variety of
fruits, vegetables, ^{fish from the lake} maize, fiber
ropes, bags &c. Besides a handsomely
made variety of rich reddish brown
patterns. Also grass mats.

The people bring their stuff up to market
in packs on their backs with the strap
crossing the chest in place of the fore-
head as I have seen the common
custom in Jalisco & Oahu.

The women bear heavy burdens
up the hill & down in this way as well
as very often a heavy child in a cradle
on the back. In the plaza they are
ranged in double rows across the
open ground & each seller
is required to pay a tax of one or two
cents for the privilege of the market
space. The women wear a hand-
woven skirt ~~consisting~~ of a dark color
with small plain longitudinal
pattern. The material is brought together at the
waist behind in a multitude of folds 3 or 4
pieces wide which have their ends against

The back of the dress is all held in place by a broad woven belt or sash wrapped about the waist a couple of times in the fringed ends hanging down at the sides. A white cotton shirt cut low across the throat & short sleeved with a regular square pattern embroidered about the opening at neck in front makes up the costume of women except for a dark colored serape that may be worn coiled about the head or thrown about the person.

As a rule the women carry the round bladed paddles used in the canoes up to town with them & ~~go~~ walk at a mincing gait with a peculiar hitching motion from being pigeon-toed & having burdens upon their hips. At the same time their arms hang down straight in front ^{together} sawing from side to side with a quick motion at each step. On Sundays they come to town in swarms & at night when some, many of them in a state of almost helpless intoxication. At such times the women are generally somewhat more sober than the men & often bundle the latter into the canoes like so many logs & paddle away over the water.

The main landing place is at the Hda. Ibarra - this place is now a small body of land bordering the lake near the town of Patzcuaro which is about 1 1/2 miles back from the shore. It is said that some 25 or 30 years since an earthquake here caused a large part of the Hda. lands to sink. The lake is without outlet & surrounded by volcanic hills & many old craters to be found in the neighborhood.

The Hda. Ibarra is owned by a old man who, with his family are fanatically religious. A chapel occupies a corner room of their building (which is a hotel) & morning & evening prayers are said there by all the household.

I could do nothing to help connecting the miserable flea-infested quarters & wretched table (one of the worst I have seen in Mex. for the money) with this excess of religious form. In the missionary of the Episcopal Church I also found in Mex. that an excess of form did not go with practice, as he managed to get the rest of me a few dollars by a willful misstatement which I discovered in less than half an hour later. He was just a fair sample of missionaries that I met lower in Mexico.

Patzcuaro is a sleepy old town that, until the advent of the O. & P., was buried in the heart of Michoacan & lived in itself. The people are still passionately religious & the one or two attempts made to establish Protestant missions here have failed owing to the pleasure taken by their neighbors in taking frequent shots at them with old muskets or other weapons of ancient design but sometimes deadly effect.

The streets of the town run up & down small hills & are paved with cobblestones through which quite a luxuriant growth of bright green grass is to be seen in many places. Wagons & carts are very rarely seen. Beyond the first part of the lake lies the old town of Simacan, one of the early mission stations, where a still sleepier town than Patzcuaro lies. There in a rude old church ~~hang~~ amid some exceptionally primitive pictures done by local artists in the early days hangs a beautiful mural of the burial of Christ hangs there with ~~the~~ hand-hewn beams & flooring of a frontier Franciscan Chapel. The day of my visit I was taken into the deserted chapel by the sacristan

closely followed by 6 or 8 halfbreed Indians
who jealously watched every movement
and squatted against the wall behind
me while I was viewing the picture.
It is quite startling to find such a
beautiful object of art hanging amid
such surroundings and, as might
be supposed, offers of considerable
sums have been made for this picture
but its beauty is so apparent that it
has impressed itself upon even the
ignorant people when it hangs &
they have a superstitious regard for it
which would render it a dangerous
matter for anyone to try to take it away
under any pretext.

I obtained a rude stone idol made
by the Tarascs of ancient times &
on inquiry for others at ^{San} Sinsum, was
told that they can be obtained at times
but that the Indians, when they find one
in a field, leave it buried there saying
that if they take it away the crop will fail.
The road to Sinsum is ~~across~~
causeway built over the eastern end
of the lake.

Back of the town of Patcuaro, extending
for many miles is the "Pedregal" as it is
called. This is a ~~open~~ wilderness of rough,
~~broken~~ lava beds covered with a
small but dense growth of oaks
& other deciduous trees interspersed
with pines on the greater portion.
In this excessively broken country,
like a mass of petrified waves of
huge ~~size~~ irregular size, are some
deer & the large species of rabbits
called "chapassi". These rabbits are
also found up to the summits of the high
hills or mts. in this district always in the
timber. East of the town a few miles
living among the broken rocks at
base of cliffs & in dense undergrowth,
were secured the very small rabbit like
one, while still another species was common
about the fields below the oak timber.
At the eastern end of the lake the Jack R. is found
& between it & the summit of an adjacent
mt. in a distance of 3 or 4 miles occur
all 4 species of Lepus.
In the old craters about the summits of these
peaks are many flowers & a great variety
of Humming Birds & other birds occur.
A fine pair of Picus imperialis was
taken in the Pedregal back of Patcuaro.

This pedregal leads back toward the low coast country & was the resort of numerous bandits a few years since but the present govt has pretty thoroughly disposed of them so that at present the 'Life Politics' informed me that if two or three persons were together well armed there was no danger.

We hunted then without any sign of danger. It is a maze of paths which require careful watching to avoid being lost. Over beyond, to the west, lie the famous coffee plantations of Urubamba. An American has a saw mill at the shore of lake ~~by~~ ^{of} Patateo & the ~~lagoon~~ ^{bridge} ~~is~~ ^{has} ~~been~~ ^{been} ~~built~~ ^{built} across the lake from the far shore making a picturesque addition to the view.

Heavy rains have made the country brilliant green here & hosts of wildflowers cover the ground in many places. But finally the rains poured too much & I was forced to give up trying to complete the work on the high mts. at present & so we took train down to Acamburo & thence to San Luis Potasi. The rains grow less frequent as we left Michoacan & the country more & more dry until

We found at San Luis Potosi
a desert where the ground was
thirsting after 3 years of failing crops

Ciudad San Luis Potosi—

I found this city filled with a host
of the most wretched, ragged specimens
of miserable humanity that I have seen
in the country. The three years drought
here has reduced many of the people
to utter misery so that they are being
fed by the authorities, & charitable
contributions of citizens. Among these,
the masonic fraternity have established
a kitchen where they feed all comers
at midday, until recently a
few rains encouraged farmers to
begin to plant corn thus giving work
when the feeding was restricted to women
& children.

In Mexico the masonic fraternity is
an object of hatred to the Catholic powers
& has come to be joined by most of
the gov't officials so that it represents
the liberal or party in power, as the Church
or conservative party joins the opposite.
There is no love lost between the two
and it is only the given hand & vice policy

of Brazil that the peace is
not broken.

This governing power uses all the
arts of a politician to keep on his side
men who might be troublesome.

Some generals who might be troublesome
if in command are retired on full pay.

Other men who are ambitious are
given high positions & by thus making
it a matter of self-interest to preserve
the peace, the risk of plots is lessened.

One of these generals I happened to
meet as I had an interview with
the governor. The latter Gen-
Carlos Diaz Gutierrez, I found a fine-
looking, affable gentleman who
offered me whatever assistance lay
in his power. He furnished me with
an effective letter to the authorities of
the state & also secured others from
private parties, another instance of the
uniform courtesy that I have met
from officials ever since my com-
ing to the country. All needed is
for one to be provided with proper creden-
tials at the outset. The Gov. has
done much to beautify the city
of San Luis since his term began
& his recent re-election is probably

as good a thing as could be done
for the people of the state.

The General is a high mason & in
common with the generality of other
of the ruling officials & most liberal
men of the country.

The priests still have the women of
the country in a state of subjection
even in many of the families
whose men are advanced liberals.

In many cases the men who are
masons conceal the fact from
their families in order to avoid the
unpleasantness that might arise
from this if it were known to the women.
Women are regarded as an inferior
class & are watched constantly &
kept behind barred windows while
young, & even when married they often
gain but little more liberty.

I heard of one authentic instance
in which a married woman ~~never~~^{never}
quitted ~~the~~ walls of her house for
years, and various people told
me that it was no uncommon
thing for a husband to lock his
wife in her rooms while he was out
at night. The men are notoriously
unfaithful and this is well known

Alameda

The Government palace is a large, well built stone structure, 3 or 4 stories high, fronting the Plaza de Armas in the center of the town. Its principal historic interest lies in the fact that Juarez had his headquarters there when Maximilian was sentenced & then came to intercede for the unfortunate Austrian, all the suitors for clemency to the stern Indian who had liberated his country.

to their wives.

Near the Mex. Nat. R.R. depot is the Alameda, - a shaded park with walks & a central monument capped by a statue of Hidalgo. This was moved here by Gen. Gutierrez in the course of his improvements from the central plaza de Armas fronting the palace.

Upon the base of the monument in large gilded letters is the name of the governor, but I could nowhere find any reference to the name of the man ~~to~~ whom the statue was erected.

The City of San Luis contains no modern buildings as we regard the term, except the two well-made stone R.R. stations.

There are many two story houses of the ordinary type of architecture. There are also many churches whose massive towers can be seen from afar as they stand in commanding eminence over the low roofs of the surrounding city. In its prime, this church must have gained much influence over its followers by the magnificence

of its architecture as compared with that of even the wealthiest of its followers. One church with fine double towers near the southern border of the town is particularly handsome.

The markets of San Luis are very interesting particularly the market Porfino Diaz. In the building where this market is held there are not many things of special note except perhaps the grain sellers who are located about the outside along ~~the~~ under the broad portico that winds about the market.

But in the streets about this market, particularly near its northern end, gather the poor people who have something to sell & under rude booths and shelters or even in the open air along the ~~road~~ ^{sides} of the streets are vendors of all manner of odds & ends.

The characteristic feature of this place ^{is} are the "tuna" sellers. The tuna is the fruit of the cactus (Opuntia ficus-indica).

By cultivation in a rude way on these dry plains several varieties of the fruit have been produced known as white, yellow, Crystalline, &c. all

with distinct size, shape & color & flavor. The three kinds named are especially delicious. They are filled with a delicate meat full of succulent juice that is very refreshing.

They are sold very cheaply, several for a cent, and almost everyone, native & foreigner enjoys them.

The junk dealer is here with his motley assortment of odd fragments of every conceivable article of iron so apparently past the days of its usefulness that it is a mystery what use can be made of it, yet these queer fragments must serve some one or they would not be found for sale. One man had a square yard or more covered with a variety of knives. Under a rude awning an old woman sold little packets of ^{dried} herbs for medicines and near by were the wood sellers who sat behind small piles of jagots - a cent's worth in some & a quartilla (3 cts) in others.

On a corner a dried up old man with a pair of antiquated balances and a grimy quality of salt.

Along a wide open space by the market
were ranged dozens of women who
squatted in line with their heads
wrapped in shawls and sold tortillas
which they kept in small baskets
under a clean white cloth or held
in their laps.

~~All about thronged a mass of~~

At one corner of the market build-
ing on the ground were the sellers of
game, - 3 or 4 women who day after
day disposed of rabbits, hares, quail
field rats (*Neotomas*) or whatever
other game the season afforded.

The rats were brought in regularly
& I saw hundreds of them exposed for
sale at different times.

They are dug out of their burrows
under cacti & mesquite plants
on the plains about San Luis, & are
sold for 6 cts. each & considered
a delicacy by the common people.
When a cotton-tail only brings from 9 to 12 cts.
& a hare from 15 to 28 cts. it is evident
that these rats must be held in
peculiar estimation.

They are also said to be beneficial
as blood purifiers as well as a savory
meat. I found it a common practice

for the hunters to bring in the rats alive in sacks
after breaking the ~~two lower~~ front teeth
in the lower jaws so to prevent ~~it~~ ~~growing~~
at them from gnawing their way out.
These rats are killed & dressed at
the market, and the women hold
them up & praise the whiteness of their
flesh to the passers to draw customers.
The game sells rapidly & is usually gone
by 9 o'clock.

Passing back & forth at short inter-
vals are the water-carriers with huge
wheel barrows bearing 4 large,
curiously-shaped water jars.
Back & forth among all this
is a constantly changing crowd in
a variety of picturesque costume
with hundreds of half-clad wretches
whose tattered apologies for garments
show the effect of the last three
years of famine & drought.

The prevailing misery among these
people has caused a host of beggars
all ages & sexes to congregate in Sah
Lais & they importune one constantly
upon the street day & night.

Owing to the excellent police system however
robbery & other crimes of violence are
very rare here despite the pressing poverty.

San Luis has ~~a~~ street car ~~and~~
electric light systems. Several times
a week the military bands play in
the afternoon or evenings in some of
the plazas, - mainly in the Plaza de Armas.

As the national holiday of Sept. 16th was
approached the plazas, all public
buildings, & many private establishments
were decorated with flags & drapery
showing the national colors of red,
white & green. The Plaza de Armas
was festooned with lanterns & the
streets just about were gay with
the bright colors, & at night the buildings were
brilliantly illuminated with small lanterns.
Hundreds of people came in from
the surrounding country, and the
walls about town were placarded
with posters giving the programme
of exercises, over the Governor's signature.
Speeches, music and military parades
with the reading of the constitution
made up the bulk of the show, with
fireworks at the close each evening.
At 11 P.M. of the 16th the plaza was filled
with the people in front of the Palace.
The Gov. appeared on a balcony over-
looking the people & his aid read the
constitution by the light of two bengal

*
In the proclamation the Gov. invited the
members of the foreign colony to take part in
the celebration thereby showing their well known
good will toward the Republic"

lights held overhead. At the close of this, the governor stepped to the edge of the balcony and, waving a small flag, shouted the "grito de Dolores" or the cry which the Cuera Hidalgo is supposed to have uttered at this hour and date years ago when he stirred up the revolution against the Spaniards that was to free his country and make a martyr of himself.

This custom is observed at the close of the festivities each year and is greeted with a loud shout by the people. It is a dramatic finish to the celebrations.

During these three days and until the end of the month a double row of canvas and matting booths were erected along the sides of a small open square in the city where a variety of games of chance were played on long tables in some, while in others a counter in front was utilized to sell pulque and aguardiente ~~afros~~ ^{afros}. In all, music was to be heard from morning till late at night and in

many dancing women were seated at the back ready to join with whoever might come in dancing on the rather floor to the music of a harp & one or two guitars.

In one booth a favorite dancer was a woman who glided about in time to the music with a bottle of beer balanced upon her head.

Flaring torches and many lamps made this place bright at night and ~~the bar place~~ ^{it} was crowded until midnight with a host of the poorer classes who found great pleasure in these simple amusements. A considerable number of police men were scattered among the throng, but I saw no trouble needing their interference in the many visits I made to the place.

Outside the booths there were many sellers of fruit and various kinds of cooked food, with a liberal sprinkling of men or women with a small table & dice box at which one could gamble a cent at a time, betting on the throw of the dice. Roulette, Faro, and monte were favorite games in the booths.

The only corn to be had in San Luis, as in most of central Mexico, is such as is brought in from the N.W.

From San Luis I went out to La Parada an Hda. some 20 m. N.W. of the city where I passed a week & secured a series of desert mammals & birds very similar in general character to the desert species of the S.W., U.S.

Larrea mexicana, Artemisia mex.
Prosopis juliflora, Agave americana,
an acacia & various cacti & other desert plants characterized the arid barren region as a part of the central desert. Whenever water can be utilized for irrigation, the soil shows great fertility. On some of the dry land the mescal is grown extensively & also up & down in the valley about San Luis it is the main crop, although corn, wheat & beans are also grown.

San Luis is situated in a N. & S. Valley from 10 to 20 m. across extending almost across the state. In its early history it was the city of mining wealth, but the ancient mines have been abandoned so long that they have caved in & are

La Parada

almost forgotten.

Another trip was about 15 m. S. of the city ~~to the~~ to the R.R. station of Jesus Maria ~~thence~~ west into the heart of the S. L. Potosi mts. that extend N. & S. west of the city. About Jesus Maria is the San Luis valley where Perognathus, Dipodomys, Perodipus & other desert mammals & birds occur numerously with almost the same vegetation as at La Parada.

The mts. present a bare rocky front to the valley but when they are penetrated & one rises from about 6000 ft. in the valley to 7000 or 8000 ft. in the mts a striking change occurs in the vegetation as well as animal life.

(See report to Dept. Agl.)

A race of ~~the~~ Corvus virg.

was found there living among the oaks on the highest part of the range. The first morning I was in the hills I found two fine bucks standing on a hillside above me and dropped one when he stood & then fired four more shots at the other as he dashed away without touching.

him, & suddenly found my magazine empty by an unfortunate chance. I then mounted my mule & rode up toward the one I had shot. As I came close to him he made several violent efforts & finally staggered to his feet and moved away at a slow trot showing a bullet hole in his ^{shoulder} just below the heart. My mule refused to get out of a slow walk & so I was forced to see my prize vanish before my eyes & was unable to trail him later on when I had gone to camp & secured more cartridges. A few days later I found a couple of does among the oaks on a hillside and, taking my stand on a rocky point overlooking them, sent my man around behind them. They were some 300 yds from me & as my man drew near them they listened to him with upraised heads & when he was within about 30 steps among the dense brush they bounded away in my direction. Taking advantage of the openings I broke one's fore leg & she fell in the bushes at about 250 yards. The other came on & I also broke its leg, but it kept on and finally

ran close up to the rocks where I stood & looked back toward the first cause of alarm. By leaning over the edge of the rocks I was able to bring it down by a shot through the hips.

A search for the first one showed where it had fallen & a bloody trail for a short distance after which the rocky soil gave no further trace. All over the tops of these mountains I found the ground dug up in spots by a species of Conepatus but failed to catch any in my traps. Aphelocoma couchi, a junco, &

Pipilo mex. were the most common birds.

These mts. are very steep & are little more than a series of high ^{narrow} rocky ridges between deep canons.

A few charcoal burners and some gatherers of sacaton grass stalks for brooms were the only people we saw except the monteros of the Hda. of Jesus Maria who were sent with me by the owner of the Hda. & who expected themselves to be useful.

Señor Cabrera, the owner furnished me with the entire outfit and generously

* At San Luis Potosi I was informed that the dogs from the outskirts of town range out into the country at night and make such havoc in the cornfields ^{by eating the green ears} that the owners of the fields are obliged to exercise great ingenuity in making traps to capture them.

Cactus or maguey hedges surround the fields & at some mark places nows are set with a vertically swinging lever, so that on attempting to pass a dog is swung high in air & strangle or is dispatched by the owner of the field.

refused to permit me to repay him in any way.

Several interesting snakes & lizards were secured in these hills - one rattlesnake - I found coiled up on an oak branch about 4 ft. from the ground. These people have a great terror of the short legged lizards I took saying that they are poisonous.

When I skinned the deer, the blood was carefully saved by the people who said that it was good for the heart & stomach as a medicine.

* My next trip from San Luis was to the east to Villar station on the Mex. Central R.R. This place is on the summit of a ~~mt.~~ pass about 800 ft. above the plain of San Luis. The hills only rise some 1000 to 1200 ft. above the plain and are devoid of pines. Oaks, walnuts & madroños ~~oaks~~, mainly as low bushy thickets except on north slopes where they become good sized trees. In such places the trees are hung with long spanish moss and a dwarf palm two to 3 ft. high.

Grows abundantly. I found here
Aphelacoma couchi & the same
deer as at Jesus Maria. But from
the palms & the Spanish moss & the
large oak & walnut trees in the canons
it was evident that this range
which extends N. & S. along the eastern border
of a small secondary valley (which is
separated from the val. of San L. by some
low hills) and forms an intermediate
range between the coast climate &
the arid valley of San Luis. East of this
range extending away for many miles
is a broad open & fertile but rather
arid plain apparently very similar
to that west of the mts.

The season has again passed, for
the 3d time in succession, without
rain enough to make a crop.

Deaths from a severe form of cholera
morbida are very common among
the very poor in San Luis and it is
a common sight to see four or six men
carrying ^{at a trot} a coffin on their shoulders
through the streets while a few miserable
monkeys trot along behind.

Patzcuaro
(Michoacan)

October

Patzcuaro, Michoacan.

Oct. 5th I left San Luis & returned to Patzcuaro to complete some work I had in hand there.

En route I heard of a recent bread riot that took place ^{the last of Sept.} in the state capital, Morelia.

The government has been supplying the people with U.S. corn at 9 cts. ~~and~~ ^{at} ~~quarter~~ ^{the} cost price of imported corn, but the supply became exhausted & then some local parties who had corn at once put the price at 36 cts. a ^{quater}.

The poor people thereupon arose en-masse and, as it was supposed that the corn was held by agents of the Catholic Clergy, a cry of "Death to the Clergy" was raised & the mob swept down the street. The governor &

Jefe Politico did their best to quiet the people, and the vendors in

fear of their lives opened their warehouses & their corn was quickly distributed among the people at the

former price of 9 cts. The people, numbering several thousand, then dispersed quietly to their homes without a single act of violence so far as I could

learn.

The Governor ~~he~~ soon after caused a law to be passed by the state legislation compelling everyone who held corn beyond a small amount necessary for his personal use to report the amount of the same to the authorities, giving his reason for holding it.

In default of such report the holder of all excess corn is to be fined \$2. for each fanega of corn so held.

In this way the gov't. will know the available supply and can avoid any further danger of riots by compelling the sale of surplus corn.

When I came to Patzcuaro early in July, the people were just planting corn some of which was just coming up. Now the corn is full grown and almost ready to pick.

After considerable chaffering with the owner, I secured an outfit of pack & saddle animals for a trip to the village of Nahuatzen about 30 miles NW. of Patzcuaro in the heart of the mts.

Nahuatzen

near the shore of Lake Patzcuaro we passed several gigantic trees of *ycaca filiformis*.

One of these I photographed. The tree stood about 30 ft. high and branched at some 15 ft. from the ground.

The tree spread so to measure about 18 ft. in diam. just above ground & in the narrowest part midway to the branches was 7 ft. in diameter.

In the early morning we were astir but had hard work to get away.

The owner of the animals demanded part of his pay in advance, some of which he handed over to the servant who was to go with us. We started out of town all right, but missing the man, sent my assistant back to find him. The pack animals were found on a street corner & the man who had gone off to spend some of his wages on mesquite was finally hunted out & put on the road.

From then on during the entire day he was a source of constant annoyance to us. In two villages that we passed he stopped and we were obliged to send back to get him started again.

Our route from Patzcuaro lay along the lake for about 15 miles giving us a succession of beautiful scenes of mountain and water as the change in our course opened new portions of the shore.

Fields of corn and walled in with stone (or frequently adobe) along the lanes we followed with small adobe houses and occasional villages with their antiquated church

buildings were of continual interest. Several gigantic specimens of *Yucca filiformis* were passed, one of which I photographed & measured. It had a base covering 20 ft. in diameter at the ground and 6 ft. above the ground at smallest part. The trunk was 8 ft. in diam. The tree then gradually enlarged up to about 12 ft. where the huge branches forked.

Its altitude was at least 50 ft. Several others were seen of similar size. Near the village of Harongaricero we turned to the left and, leaving the lake, crossed a divide some 800 ft. high & entered a beautiful valley surrounded by hills covered with a fine growth of *Pinus montezumae*.

The valley and many rectangular spaces on the hillslopes are cleared and covered with corn. In a few fields winter wheat is being sown. In the middle of this valley is a thrifty village of the Tarasco Indians who are living in well-finished wooden houses. The original Tarasco is spoken here almost to the exclusion of Spanish.

The houses are made of remarkably well-hewed planks of pine which are notched & fitted at the ends & so well hewed at the ~~joints~~ edges that the joints could not be closer with well-sawn lumber.

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shakes


Many of the plants have their surfaces so well finished that a close inspection is necessary to show that it was done with an ax.

The roofs are gabled and covered with shakes that are held in place by wooden pins driven through holes into the cross pieces of the roof that in turn are pinned to rafters.

The houses are finished by a good plank floor ceiling, a paneled door and a broad porch with pillars along its outer edge. In all cases, the ^{steep} roof projects far over the walls & is carried still farther to form the porch. The latter covered with a plank floor, is the favorite place for both men & women to carry on their work. The pillars of the porches are either round or square and are often worked into ornamental patterns of scroll or beaded outline.

Each house usually has a yard in front with a gateway through the adobe, or stone or plank wall.

A heavy ~~double~~ single leaved gate swings between two posts over which is erected a small double pitched roof to protect it from the weather.

The gables of the houses are covered with shakes and the course in the apex are often set in rose pattern thus 

The ~~wall~~ walls along the streets are overgrown with ^{myosotis} ferns, orchids and various other plants and an occasional ~~plant~~ was had of gratutraind white & crimson roses trailing above the walls - or the blaze of scarlet geraniums & black out as we passed.

